



County of Los Angeles CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

713 KENNETH HAHN HALL OF ADMINISTRATION
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012
(213) 974-1101
<http://ceo.lacounty.gov>

WILLIAM T FUJIOKA
Chief Executive Officer

Board of Supervisors
GLORIA MOLINA
First District

YVONNE B. BURKE
Second District

ZEV YAROSLAVSKY
Third District

DON KNABE
Fourth District

MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH
Fifth District

August 29, 2007

To: Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky, Chairman
Supervisor Gloria Molina
Supervisor Yvonne B. Burke
Supervisor Don Knabe
Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

From: William T Fujioka
Chief Executive Officer

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "W T Fujioka", is written over the printed name and title.

SACRAMENTO UPDATE

Pursuit of County Position on Legislation

SB 474 (Kuehl), as proposed to be amended, would create the South Los Angeles Medical Services Preservation Fund of up to \$100 million annually that would be provided to the County for the preservation of healthcare services to the South Los Angeles County population formerly served by MLK-Harbor Hospital. The funds would be generated by modifying the statute implementing the State's Hospital Financing Waiver to retain approximately the same amount of the Disproportionate Share Hospital and Safety Net Care Pool funds that would have gone to MLK-Harbor Hospital had it remained open. The remainder of the bill makes several necessary modifications for years three through five of the Waiver statute (SB 1100 - Perata, Ducheny of 2005) that are consistent with County policy.

The Department of Health Services (DHS) indicates that these amendments are designed to respond to the unique circumstances presented by the MLK-Harbor Hospital closure and are predicated on the intent of the County to re-establish hospital services at the former MLK-Harbor Hospital campus as soon as possible. The fund would be limited to the remaining three years of the Waiver or the recertification of the Hospital, whichever occurs first.

As a condition of receiving the funds, the County would have to maintain its current level of system-wide County funding for DHS, and it would be required to make an annual intergovernmental transfer of up to \$5.0 million as the non-Federal share of increased Medi-Cal payments to the private hospitals that are now serving the population formerly served by MLK-Harbor. This obligation will terminate upon recertification of the Hospital. The funds would be distributed to the County to reimburse expenditures for services provided at the Multi-Service Ambulatory Care Clinic operated on the MLK-Harbor site, other County hospitals, the Humphrey and Dollarhide Health Centers, and non-County hospitals and clinics which the County has agreed to pay in response to the MLK-Harbor downsizing and closure.

Support of SB 474 is consistent with the Board's policy to support dependable funding sources for the health care safety net. **Therefore, our Sacramento advocates will support SB 474.** SB 474 is awaiting consideration on the Assembly Appropriations Committee's suspense file.

Status of County-Advocacy Legislation

County-opposed AB 13 (Brownley), which would require hospitals to adopt a plan or procedure for determining the staffing of professional and technical classifications, was placed on the Senate Appropriations Committee's suspense file on August 22, 2007 because of potential increased costs to the State General Fund.

County-supported AB 97 (Mendoza), which would limit the use of trans fat by retail food facilities, passed the Senate Appropriations Committee on August 22, 2007 by a vote of 9 to 2, and now proceeds to the Senate floor.

- **County-supported AB 119 (Price)**, which would restore the State's obligation to pay the costs of conducting special elections to fill vacancies in the State Legislature or Congress, was placed on the Senate Appropriations Committee's suspense file on Wednesday, August 22, 2007. The Committee is expected to take up its suspense file within the next week.

County-supported AB 184 (Bass), which would appropriate \$3.0 million from the State's General Fund to provide Independent Living Program services, such as education, career counseling, and daily living skills to former foster youth who meet specified criteria, was placed on the Senate Appropriations Committee's Suspense file on August 22, 2007 because of potential increased costs to the State General Fund.

County-supported AB 340 (Hancock), which would establish the Unified Resource Families Assessment Pilot project in five volunteer counties to merge duplicative processes for licensing foster families and adoptive parents, was placed on the Senate Appropriations Committee's Suspense file on August 22, 2007 because of potential increased costs to the State General Fund.

County-supported AB 752 (Dymally), which would distribute stabilization funds among the public hospital system in years three through five of the Hospital Financing Waiver, was placed on the Senate Appropriations Committee's suspense file on August 22, 2007 because of potential increased costs to the State General Fund.

County-supported AB 1453 (Soto), which would require the California Department of Social Services to work with public and private stakeholders to develop a plan to transform California's group home system for foster youth and children with serious emotional disorders into a residentially based services system, was placed on the Senate Appropriations Committee's Suspense file on August 22, 2007 because of potential increased costs to the State General Fund.

County-supported SB 120 (Padilla), which would require that all chain restaurants in the State with ten or more outlets to provide nutritional information that includes the total number of calories, grams of saturated and trans fats, and milligrams of sodium for each item on standard menus, was placed on the Assembly Appropriations Committee's suspense file on August 22, 2007, because of potential increased costs to the State General Fund.

County-supported SB 720 (Kuehl), which would correct a drafting error in current law to encourage the joint placement of an infant with a teen parent when both are in foster care, passed the Assembly Appropriations Committee on August 22, 2007 by a vote 16 to 0, and now proceeds to the Assembly Floor's Consent Calendar.

County-sponsored SB 767 (Ridley-Thomas), which would protect licensed health care professionals who are working in conjunction with an opiate overdose prevention and treatment program from civil and criminal liability when, if acting with reasonable care, they prescribe, dispense, or distribute an opioid antagonist, was placed on the Assembly Appropriations Committee's suspense file on August 22, 2007 because of potential increased costs to the State General Fund.

Legislation of County Interest

Vehicle Seizure and Forfeiture

There are two bills, **AB 1724 (Jones)** and **SB 67 (Perata)**, that enhance the ability of local jurisdictions to seize, impound, and/or provide for the forfeiture of vehicles used in connection with defined criminal activities.

AB 1724, as amended on August 20, 2007, specifically responds to the recent California Supreme Court (Court) decision (O'Connell v. City of Stockton) that limited the authority of local governments to enact an ordinance that would allow for the forfeiture of any vehicle used to commit certain criminal acts. The Court held that the Uniform Controlled Substances Act set forth vehicle forfeiture provisions that were comprehensive in nature

and indicated the Legislature's intent to preclude local regulation. AB 1724 would allow local jurisdictions to adopt an ordinance that would declare a motor vehicle to be a public nuisance when the motor vehicle is used in the commission of defined criminal acts related to prostitution or procuring of an illegal controlled substance. AB 1724 was re-referred to the Committee on Rules on August 27, 2007.

SB 67, as amended on June 28, 2007, is an urgency measure that would provide for the reenactment of provisions of law that were allowed to sunset related to the ability to impound motor vehicles used in connection with speed contests and reckless driving. SB 67 allows for the seizure and impound of vehicles for 30 days when an individual is arrested for engaging in a speed contest, reckless driving on a highway or parking facility, or exhibition of speed. The bill also provides for the release of such vehicle prior to the end of the 30-day period under certain circumstances including the vehicle being stolen, if the registered owner was neither the driver or a passenger in the vehicle and was unaware of the prohibited activities, and if the registered owner of the vehicle is a rental car agency. SB 67 is currently on the Assembly floor awaiting its third reading.

We will continue to keep you advised.

WTF:GK
MAL:IGA:acn

c: All Department Heads
Legislative Strategist
Local 721
Coalition of County Unions
California Contract Cities Association
Independent Cities Association
League of California Cities
City Managers Associations
Buddy Program Participants